

ARGUMENTS FILED AGAINST THE REGULATION
AND TAXATION OF MARIJUANA ACT

Upending decades of serious substance abuse policy by making today's high potency marijuana more available would constitute a youth health policy disaster.

As more and more medical journals are finding, today's high potency marijuana is a drug that specifically harms the teen and adolescent brain. In some cases, permanently. And there is no doubt that youth use will increase with legalization: In Colorado, youth use of marijuana is now 74 percent higher than the national average. Not only is marijuana much more potent than it was a generation ago, it is now sold as candy, lollipops, gummy bears, and brownies—everything attractive to a kid.

Because children cannot distinguish between marijuana candy and regular candy, emergency room visits and hospital admissions for marijuana exposure and ingestion by our youth are on the rise—thousands of children a year end up in hospitals because of these products. The costs from more drug treatment, rehabilitation, counseling, traffic and workplace accidents, enforcement, criminal violations, dropouts, and education deficits will far outrun any potential tax revenue the state might take in—just like with tobacco or alcohol. If you want to make marijuana like alcohol, indeed, be prepared to see youth use of marijuana increase from where it is today, to the levels our youth use alcohol—which is far higher than marijuana. If you want to keep youth use of marijuana relatively low, where it is now, vote no.

This proposition enriches dispensary owners at a dramatic cost to the rest of the state. That price is just too high to pay—for our children, for our businesses, for our health services, for our education system, and truly, for everyone else. Arizona does not need more substance abuse problems—our hands are full enough with the legal and dangerous products already available.

Seth Leibsohn, Chairman: NotMYKid; Chairman: Arizonans for Responsible Drug Policy, Phoenix

Arizonans should vote no on this proposition. It is written by out-of-state lobbyists and in-state special interest groups to promote a for-profit commercial industry to sell – and advertise – an addictive product. It is 20 pages of new laws and more government, full of legalese that creates marijuana monopolies, guaranteeing that a few get rich while the rest of us pay the price.

This proposition will allow Big Marijuana companies to manufacture and sell marijuana-laced candies, cookies, drinks, and ice-cream. Colorado legalized recreational marijuana in 2012. Today, their industry pumps out marijuana edibles with potency levels as high as 60%. Compare that to the marijuana of the 1970s with potency levels of less than 1%.

The marijuana lobby wants voters to believe that our prisons are filled with nothing more than marijuana users. This is an absolute falsehood. Arizona has been a national leader for the last twenty years as a treatment - not incarceration – state for drug users. A person cannot be

incarcerated for marijuana possession or use until a third conviction, with few exceptions. Instead, Arizona promotes treatment through our drug courts and diversion programs.

The marijuana lobby also promised Colorado that legalizing the drug would make the drug cartels go away. This too is false. Today, drug cartels in Colorado are flourishing, hiding in plain sight, in this drug-friendly state.

Marijuana is a mind-altering, addictive substance that is particularly harmful to the developing adolescent brain. Four years ago, the marijuana lobby promised Colorado they would regulate marijuana and keep it out of the hands of kids. The exact opposite happened. Teens in Colorado now use marijuana at the highest rate in the nation – 74% higher than the national average. The most effective way to keep marijuana out of the hands of our youth is to keep it illegal.

Sheila Polk, Yavapai County Attorney, Chair of MATFORCE & Vice-Chair of Arizonans for Responsible Drug Policy, Prescott Valley

Out of state and in state profiteers vested in selling more marijuana don't care about the health, education, or the developing minds of Arizona children. Legalizing marijuana will ensure Arizona children will have easy access to a mind altering, pernicious drug. Serious, peer-reviewed research suggests a particularly harmful effect of marijuana on children including: altered brain development, reduced IQ, memory and motor impairment, reduced life satisfaction, addiction, and, in heavy dosages or long term use, symptoms of bronchitis, and psychosis/mental health issues.

As a teacher, and the House Education Chair, I can't think of a more important vote than NO on legalizing marijuana. I cannot in good conscience, as a member of the State Legislature or school teacher, support this initiative in any way. This 21-page ballot measure benefits a handful of interested parties determined to create a bigger market for Arizona drug use. But, the true cost of legalizing recreational marijuana and putting the rights of users before those of non-users in our state is completely unknown. The tax revenue pro-pot advocates claim will bolster our state budget is deceptive. Schools will only get leftovers after the new Department of Marijuana and the new Commission has been fully funded, that is, if there's anything left over. Nor do they take into account the cost of more school dropouts, reduced IQs, and the impact on the mental health system.

I implore voters to read the 21 pages of legalese that out of state special interests are trying to sneak on to the ballot and to vote NO on Proposition [XXX] November 8.

Representative Paul Boyer

Representative Paul Boyer, Phoenix

As former State Superintendents of Education, we take specific offense with the idea that legalizing marijuana will be good for our schools or our children. It will not; indeed, it will cause a great deal more harm and expense. Whether we are talking about college students or K-12 students, more marijuana in our schools and in our students' hands and brains is a terrible idea.

First: make no mistake: legalizing an intoxicating substance for adults will mean more youth consumption, just as it has in Colorado and Washington, and just as it has for alcohol in every state.

Second: every study on marijuana use and education shows students using marijuana are more likely to have lower education scores and outcomes, and far more likely to drop out. Teenagers who use marijuana are 60 percent less likely to finish high school while college students who use marijuana are at twice the risk of dropping out. Marijuana use by teens and college students affects "focus, working memory, decision-making and motivation," and has "structural effects in the brain," according to a recent study out of Northwestern University. None of this is good for students or better educational outcomes. As a Professor of Psychiatry at Northwestern, put it: "If I were to design a substance that is bad for college students, it would be marijuana."

Third: revenue to schools? The guesstimates are mere pittance, like picking loose change out of a sofa. Given the damage more marijuana will cause our students, any revenue will never make up for the costs--those true education deficits. We have dedicated our lives to improving educational outcomes for Arizona students, and marijuana use negatively affects every single one. Legal marijuana is a bad idea for Arizona and has no place in the conversation of positive education reform.

Lisa Keegan, Peoria and Jaime Molera, former AZ Superintendent of Public Instruction, Phoenix

Legalizing marijuana will greatly harm Arizona's children - our future. I strongly urge Arizona voters to protect the health and safety of our children and VOTE NO on Prop XXX

We need only to look at states that have already legalized marijuana to confirm the increased harm this drug causes children. Colorado now leads the nation in youth use of marijuana and all illicit drugs. Legalized marijuana does four things that put our kids at risk. Legalization: 1) increases supply, 2) increases ease of access to the drug, 3) decreases perception of risk and 4) increases the acceptance of the drug. Legalizing marijuana in Arizona means kids will think it is okay to use. Legalization will only result in more and more Arizona youth using the drug.

In marijuana friendly states, accidental poisoning of children has increased 600%. Marijuana edible products, like candies in the form of gummy bears and suckers, are laced with high potency THC and are easily getting into the hands of children. The result is children are arriving in emergency rooms. Many of the people consuming this high potency THC are suffering from psychotic episodes. As Colorado has proven, legalization only opens the door for more marijuana use by youth.

Don't be misled just because the ballot initiative says that marijuana will be regulated like alcohol and only sold to adults. Far too many youth find a way around the alcohol laws already, alcohol is the number one drug that Arizona youth are abusing.

So please ask yourself this question: Will legalizing a mind-altering drug that reduces a young person's chance for success make Arizona a better place to live? Do you want your child or grandchild to use this drug? Let's keep Arizona kids safe and healthy – vote NO on Prop XXX

Merilee Fowler, Camp Verde

I'm a lifelong liberal, but after thirty years practicing psychiatry, much of it with children and adolescents, I'm totally against legalizing marijuana. And it's not just me. The American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry and American Academy of Pediatrics also staunchly oppose legalization. Why? Because just like Big Tobacco, a legal marijuana industry would target teenagers. With both tobacco and marijuana, 90% of adult users start as teens. All the profit in both industries depends on adolescent use. Big Tobacco used Joe Camel to get teenagers started. Big Marijuana is even worse. In Colorado, they entice kids with marijuana candies, cookies and soda. Denver pot stores aren't filled with green leafy weed; they're filled with THC-infused gummy bear, lollipops, and sweetened products called Reefer's peanut butter cups, Hashey's chocolate and Pot-tarts. Google them. As a result, Colorado now has the country's highest rate of teenage marijuana use, and the number of dogs and toddlers overdosing on pot has skyrocketed. The pot industry is directly targeting kids, even though hundreds of scientific studies show that marijuana – especially today's high-potency weed – permanently damages the teenage brain. Teens who smoke pot regularly drop out at twice the rate of non-users, and as adults they earn less and have lower IQ. No parent wants this for their kids. But does the marijuana industry care? No more than Big Tobacco cares about cancer and heart disease; it's just part of doing business. Remember: this initiative wasn't written by hippies who want to get high; it was written by businessmen who want to make money getting your kids started on drugs. That's why doctors who work with children – pediatricians and child psychiatrists -- adamantly oppose this measure. As should we all.

Ed Gogek, M.D. Board-certified Psychiatrist, Prescott

As an Arizona Pediatrician in practice for over 27 years and as a father and grandfather I write in opposition to the legalization of marijuana for recreational use. The evidence from the Colorado and Washington experiment is now indisputable.

1. Children's use of marijuana skyrockets after it becomes legal for adults, not just because it's more available but because young people erroneously perceive that if adult voters approve it, then it must not be harmful.
2. The edible formulations of marijuana contain such high concentrations of THC that they can cause serious medical problems in young children. These products are marketed as candy which

dramatically increases the risk of accidental ingestion and is responsible for a marked increase in Emergency Room visits.

3. The younger a person starts using marijuana, the more likely they will become addicted, not graduate from high school, induce psychiatric disorders, negatively transform the anatomy of the brain and actually lose up to 8 IQ points.

4. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), in an official policy statement reaffirmed its opposition to the legalization of marijuana "citing the potential harms to children and adolescents". The AAP represents over 62,000 pediatricians nationwide.

To protect Arizona's children I implore you to vote against this initiative. Our children's health and future life fulfillment are too important to waste on this experiment.

Dale W Guthrie MD FAAP
Former President
Arizona Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

Dale W Guthrie MD FAAP, Mesa

I am an Arizona parent whose child died by suicide following his addiction to marijuana, Cannabis Use Disorder. He left a note saying "My soul is already dead. Marijuana killed my soul + ruined my brain." He was and is a beloved son, not a Zero as the marijuana lobby asserts with its myth that marijuana cannot lead to death. The substance is indeed very harmful and risky for many. Science affirms this. This initiative proposes an enormous burden on society with new government agencies to regulate and police yet another substance of impairment - for recreational use. The initiative includes wide distribution and lighter penalties than for alcohol. This is proposed during a mental health and drug abuse epidemic, when many are doing everything we can to curb substance abuse. This is proposed at a time when society would benefit from improvement in its education and attitudes toward harmful and risky substance use. This initiative normalizes drug use which leads to increased usage. Businesses always work to expand. More use = more risk = more use disorder and addiction = more devastated families. I urge all to work to Protect and Prevent, not Promote drug use.

Sally Schindel, Concerned Parent, Prescott

As a teacher and school board member, I can't urge Arizonans strongly enough to vote this initiative down. More marijuana—with retail stores only 500 feet from our schools—is the last thing our children need. Make no mistake, just as with alcohol, we will not be able to keep a more common and intoxicating substance out of the hands of our students. That's what Colorado is realizing, that's what Washington State is realizing, and that is why we do not need to jump on this grenade as they have. Arizona is doing everything it can to increase positive education outcomes for our youth. Increased marijuana use will lead us in the exact opposite and wrong

direction. Colorado has seen increased youth use, suspensions, expulsions, and absenteeism because that state thought it could legalize marijuana exclusively for adults. It cannot. Marijuana, especially today's high potency marijuana, causes a great many problems for youth—it can alter their brains, lower scores, it can lead to addiction. The estimated revenue from this product will never make up for those costs. The estimated revenue from legalization won't build one school or increase a teacher's salary high enough to buy a tank of gas a week; it won't be enough to purchase a single text book for the population of Arizona K-12 students. But it will make teaching harder and it will negatively affect thousands of more students. I urge parents and teachers to read the science and medical journals on marijuana and what it can do to the developing brain. Let's all continue our efforts to curb substance abuse and not add another dangerous product to the field of options making all our lives more difficult.

--Moses Sanchez, Tempe Union High School District Governing Board

Moses Sanchez, Phoenix

I've been a Family Medicine doctor for 30 years. During that time, I've cared for patients of all ages, seen many things, and applied this experience to keep my patients healthy. Remember the saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Sadly, I have seen countless examples of the terrible consequences of recreational drug use. Whether the drug is marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine, or ..., the theme is similar. What begins as just "try it once" to see what it's like, or an escape from stress, or whatever the reason, it commonly becomes something much different. The drug becomes an escape from reality, a departure from personal responsibility, a barrier to productive school or work, a replacement for meaningful relationships with family & friends, and the pathway to poor health. It frequently leads to addiction, and its adverse results.

Advocates of legalization try to mislead you and distinguish marijuana from "hard drugs." That might have been true decades ago, but it's not true today. The psychologically active ingredient of marijuana is THC. In the 1960's, marijuana contained about 1% THC. In 2016, marijuana edibles contain from 30% to 70% THC. What may not have been addictive then is certainly addictive now. What does today's marijuana do? Here's the (scientifically proven) list: memory problems, impaired judgment & problem solving, loss of motivation, loss of coordination, impaired brain maturation in adolescents & teens, poor school performance, lower IQ, chronic bronchitis and lung damage, and higher rates of schizophrenia.

Colorado legalized "recreational" marijuana in 2012. The price is now being paid, with higher rates of traffic death and more ER visits for the effects of marijuana use. STOP that mistake in Arizona. Consider facts, not hype. For our kids, for our health, for common sense, VOTE NO on Prop. [XXX]!

Richard H. Rutkowski, MD, Fountain Hills

As a former teacher and professional in the substance abuse profession for several decades, I strongly oppose making an increasingly potent and addictive drug more available. Colorado tells the tale: Since legalization there, Colorado has become the number one state for youth marijuana use--74 percent higher than the rest of the nation.

This is why Coloradans are doing everything they can to backtrack: they are lowering the tax rate on marijuana because the black market still thrives there, they are banning gummy bears because they are too attractive to children, and they are now trying to limit THC levels in their products. This initiative will not allow us to do either of the last two—we'll be stuck with candies attractive to children as well as high potency marijuana. Adults need to know: today's marijuana is an entirely different drug from what it was in the 1970s and 1980s, at least five times more potent and in many cases far more so.

The data is clear: there is no better way to keep marijuana out of the hands and heads of our youth than by keeping it illegal. Marijuana use by our teens is fairly low in Arizona. Make marijuana like alcohol? That would mean increased use by our youth: Arizona youth use alcohol far more regularly than marijuana—almost double the rate. When we decide to try to legalize another intoxicant exclusively for adults, think about how that has worked with alcohol. But alcohol is not on the ballot here, marijuana is—we can try to contain the damage we already have or we can make things worse. Adults should not add to the problem. Finally, consider: this initiative allows marijuana stores 500 feet from our schools. Who can possibly think that's what Arizona needs right now?

Debbie Moak, Director: Governor's Office of Youth, Faith, & Family, Phoenix

The Bishops of the Arizona Catholic Conference oppose the campaign to legalize the recreational use of marijuana in Arizona because it is harmful to both children and families in Arizona.

Legalizing the recreational use of marijuana sends a message to children and young people that drug use is socially and morally acceptable. As people of faith, we must speak out against this effort and the damaging effects its passage would have on the children and families of Arizona.

Studies have shown that adolescents who use marijuana have significant differences in brain structure and cognitive functioning compared to those who do not use marijuana and experience up to an eight-point drop in IQ. Furthermore, based on what happened in just two years after Colorado legalized marijuana, it is estimated that if Arizona passes this measure, tens of thousands of additional 8th graders here will smoke marijuana for the first time.

Marijuana-related traffic accidents and other problems are also likely to dramatically increase if recreational marijuana use is legalized. In Colorado for example, marijuana-related traffic deaths dramatically increased after recreational marijuana was legalized. Additionally, Colorado witnessed similar dramatic increases in hospitalizations and emergency room visits related to marijuana usage after recreational use was legalized.

In states that have legalized marijuana, there has also been an increase in the use of harder drugs like cocaine and heroin since marijuana was legalized, which only further increased societal costs.

For the reasons mentioned above, and others, it is anticipated that legalizing the recreational use of marijuana in Arizona will lead to more abuse by teens, more emergency room visits, more traffic deaths, and more societal costs. Accordingly, due to the detrimental effect it would have on children, families, and all of society, we strongly oppose this dangerous proposal.

Sponsored by “The Bishops of the Arizona Catholic Conference”

NO on Proposition [xxx]

The “Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act” will establish a regulatory board that will be made up of members of the growers and dispensers of Marijuana; this in affect will not only establish a monopoly for the current growers and dispensaries but also protect them from any liability in what will prove to be a multi-billion dollar business. This will be a classic example of a fox guarding the hen house. We should wait to see the lessons learned in Colorado where Marijuana was approved for recreational use in 2014. It is estimated that there are over 900 business licenses for Marijuana stores in Colorado. With these numbers, there are now more dispensaries in Colorado than there are Starbucks, McDonald’s and 7-Elevens combined -- and the numbers keep growing. The dispensaries are now concentrating the active ingredient THC in a liquid form to be sprayed on edible candy and other edibles to attract the attention of our youth in an ever increasing attempt to create more addicts to build their customer base for life. Fatalities and poisoning of children from edibles are now on the rise in Colorado. Science has proven that the minds of children are still forming in their teen years and are very susceptible to the life long damages that Marijuana will cause. In the end this issue should be all about the kids. Children of today face far more challenges than past generations ever had to endure. For us to approve this deceptive initiative will prove fatal to our youth and only put yet another road block between them and a happy and successful life. Please join me in voting NO on the “Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act”.

Paul B. Smith R.Ph., Prescott

The 'Legalization and Regulation of Marijuana Act' does more to legalize the drug than it does to regulate it.

The initiative regulates the big business of marijuana, but falls short in regulating important health and safety issues such as impairment, advertising, marketing practices and levels of the psychoactive ingredient THC.

There is no accurate blood level measurement for marijuana impairment, like there is for alcohol. And their impairment can vary depending on whether they have also consumed alcohol. Without

being able to measure impairment, how would a police officer or employer be able to determine if a person who has consumed marijuana is safe to operate a vehicle or machinery?

The Marijuana Act does not include any regulations for how marijuana will be advertised and marketed. Without such regulation for marijuana, this leaves the door wide open for ads on TV, radio, billboards and more, with no regulation for content or imagery. Further, one can see serious safety concerns for children. The edibles are sold in colorful, appealing packages, such as chocolates, candies like gummy bears, and cookies, all containing varying amounts of THC.

The Marijuana Act does not regulate the amount of THC that can be infused into a product. The level of THC in the product, especially in edibles, can vary and can cause serious health issues. Overdose problems in Colorado are on the rise, greatly increasing the number of users ending up in the emergency room.

Marijuana is a potent and addictive drug. This act falls short in protecting the citizens of Arizona with needed safeguards. Vote NO on this ballot.

Patricia Moomey, Prescott

ARIZONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY: VOTE NO ON LEGALIZED MARIJUANA

The Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry strongly urges you to vote no on legalized marijuana. This proposition is part of a disturbing trend of out-of-state interests using Arizona as their personal laboratory for risky experiments.

Recreational marijuana exposes employers to increased workplace accidents, more workers' compensation claims and lower overall workplace productivity. Legalization sends the wrong message to the companies we want to grow and invest here.

On the public health side, Arizona faces increased rates of addiction and costs that come with drug treatment and rehabilitation. Research indicates that there has been a tripling of fatal car crashes involving marijuana, and that the number of drivers with marijuana in their system has seen a dramatic rise. The higher potency of today's drug and the spread of edibles like cookies and candy are especially harmful to children.

The claimed state revenue benefits don't add up. Establishing a new, big government bureaucracy to regulate pot isn't cheap. The law would establish a Department of Marijuana Licenses and Control and a Marijuana Commission. Combined with the costs of drug treatment programs, legalization is a risky and expensive proposition whose costs far outweigh any new revenues.

The proposition leads to a marijuana monopoly, giving a special advantage to firms already in the medical marijuana business.

The youth marijuana use rate in states where marijuana has been legalized has spiked by 20 percent, compared to a decline in use nationwide. Legalizing marijuana runs completely counter to our efforts to improve our K-12 education system and bolster our workforce pipeline.

There will always be individuals who want to get high. But Arizona should not calibrate a sweeping, untested public policy around them.

Glenn Hamer
President and CEO

Dennis Dahlen
Chairman

Glenn Hamer, Phoenix and Dennis Dahlen, Phoenix
Sponsored by “Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry”

There is only one word for Proposition [XXX] – Disaster

It’s a Disaster because it allows for more pot shops than Starbucks and McDonald’s combined in Arizona.

It’s a Disaster because it allows for the sale of candy, cookies, gummy bears, brownies and sodas laced with high potent marijuana to be sold without any warning labels. Kids won’t know the difference.

It’s a Disaster because it protects stoned drivers. It’s hard to believe, but it’s true. This initiative PROHIBITS the state from EVER enacting a legal limit like there is for alcohol at .08.

It’s a Disaster because changes cannot be made after it’s passed. Everything in the initiative would be codified in state law, practically permanently due to voter protection –regardless of how many innocent people are killed in drugged driving accidents, how many babies are sent to the ER after ingesting edibles that look like candy, and regardless of how many kids are buying marijuana under the age of 21.

It’s a Disaster because towns and cities cannot ban a marijuana retail business. In Colorado 70% of cities and towns opted out of retail stores. With this proposition, there will be pot shops everywhere.

It’s a Disaster because it will allow the delivery of marijuana like pizzas.

It’s a Disaster because Colorado is a disaster with Denver having the highest rate of youth marijuana use in the country.

Help Prevent a Disaster for Arizona – VOTE NO on PROP [XXX]

Michelle Mowrey, Scottsdale

The Arizona Farm Bureau opposes Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act (I-08-2016) or "Proposition XXX"

When you de-criminalize a behavior, in this case use of a substance, but still require sideboards to keep the use away from minors, structures and processes must be in place and insured to work. It is different from simply abandoning enforcement - it's a paradigm change in enforcement and education. Arizona has medical marijuana. We believe insufficient time has elapsed to evaluate whether complete legalization is either wise or all of its consequences have been properly evaluated.

Kevin Rogers, Gilbert and James Klinker, Gilbert

Sponsored by "Arizona Farm Bureau"

THE TUCSON HISPANIC CHAMBER AND ITS AFFILIATE CHAMBERS IN SIERRA VISTA, NOGALES AND DOUGLAS VOTE NO!

This initiative would make Arizona workplaces less safe and put our growing prosperity in jeopardy. It includes provisions that hamper an employer's ability to discipline or fire a worker who uses marijuana and employers could also be sued if they refuse to hire someone who tests positive for marijuana. This initiative is a confusing, tort-lawyer's dream, all for the purpose of selling a harmful drug.

This initiative places the interests of the marijuana user over those of co-workers and employers. Meanwhile, studies have shown that workers who test positive for marijuana have 55 percent more industrial accidents and 85 percent more injuries as well as increased absenteeism rates. This is nothing Arizonans need.

Businesses face enough challenges without having greater liability foisted on them by a complexly written and misguided initiative. If this passes, businesses will be disincentivized to expand or move into Arizona. Or they may turn to Utah or New Mexico for workers. The cost to all of us is just too high.

This is not good for our members, for their employees, or for Arizona. Vote no.

Lea Marquez Peterson
President/CEO
Tucson Hispanic Chamber
Sierra Vista Hispanic Chamber
Douglas Hispanic Chamber
Ambos Nogales Hispanic Chamber

Laura Oldaker
Vice Chairwoman of the Board

Lea Marquez Peterson, Tucson and Laura Oldaker, Tucson

Sponsored by "Tucson Hispanic Chamber And Its Affiliate Chambers In Sierra Vista, Nogales And Douglas"

I'm not one to read government studies on marijuana's harms. My experience is enough. Why is it we are moving towards legalization of powerful substances when our society has been rocked by the same? Men have exited families, leaving their children who are in desperate need of fathers. Mothers have neglected their children to the point where Arizona has one of the highest child removal rates nationally. Often these tragedies didn't end with marijuana use but a vast majority started with it. One of these tragedies is my own. I have lost a relationship with one of my children and almost lost another. I went from being a nationally recognized All-State athlete and accomplished securities professional to being homeless.

Some use alcohol responsibly but many do not. Some do okay with marijuana but many do not. This is true with every drug. But alcohol is not on the ballot and marijuana is. The last twenty years my charge has been to help those who have "not done okay." I deal with the wreckage of addiction daily and have lost count of the many young people who said, "I wish I had never smoked that first joint."

I serve as an Advisory Board Member to The Salvation Army. In Denver, since marijuana was legalized, demand for The Salvation Army's services has skyrocketed and the population is younger and younger. Colorado now imports homelessness at a rate unseen before legalization. I love the homeless and wish all could be saved, but creating more is not good policy. Overcoming addiction is the most difficult thing I've ever done. I'm one of the lucky ones; let's not create inroads to increased addiction and stop throwing the dice on high risk public policy—not everyone is so lucky.

Jeff Taylor, The Salvation Army Phoenix Advisory Board, Phoenix

This Initiative will result in major increases in death and injury from marijuana DUI crashes. This is demonstrated vividly by the facts from Colorado and Washington, which have legal marijuana. In Colorado, marijuana related traffic deaths increased 92% from just after marijuana was commercialized there - a rate nearly 12 times higher than the increase in all traffic deaths. In Washington, fatalities among drivers using marijuana have doubled since legalization.

This Initiative protects marijuana impaired drivers from prosecution. The Initiative expressly prohibits the State from prosecuting marijuana impaired drivers based on a level like Arizona's .08 blood alcohol. Science will determine an impairing level for marijuana, but no level can be enacted into law because of this Initiative.

Marijuana is not safer than alcohol. Marijuana affects cognitive functions just as alcohol. It impairs drivers through distortion of time and distance, loss of coordination, increased reaction times and inability to maintain lateral travel. Also, people do not switch to alcohol because proponents erroneously claim it to be safer. In Colorado, alcohol related driving deaths remained relatively constant while marijuana related driving deaths rose 92%. Also, Colorado alcohol sales have gone up since legalization.

Entrepreneurs in marijuana-legalized states are now planning to sell alcohol infused with marijuana and this Initiative allows the same. This is particularly disturbing because the pairing of alcohol and marijuana results in driving impairment greater than the sum of each individually.

Statistics indicate only about 8% of Arizona's population regularly uses marijuana. Yet, that 8% wants to pass an Initiative with terrible impacts for all the citizens of Arizona, causing huge increases in DUI crashes and deaths. This Initiative does not regulate marijuana like alcohol, but instead, protects stoned drivers and badly undermines highway safety.

Todd A Griffith,
Retired Director, Dept. of Public Safety, Crime Laboratory System

Todd A. Griffith, Phoenix

Jessica Smith, Arizona SADD Director

Any Arizonan under the age of 21 cannot legally buy or possess alcohol, but that has not kept beer and liquor from being the substances most abused by minors, sometimes with deadly consequences.

This isn't surprising. Alcohol is widely available, so it is widely abused. If the Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act (RTMA) passes, marijuana will become just as available. The harm to our youth will be devastating.

Proponents like to trot out a survey showing marijuana use among American teens hasn't risen in the last few years. That's because marijuana remains illegal across most of the United States. In those states that have legalized recreational marijuana, teen usage rates have skyrocketed. In Colorado, teen use of marijuana is 74 percent higher than the national average.

This comes with a huge price.

The teen brain is still developing, so any intoxicating substance causes more damage than it does to an adult's brain. THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, causes impaired coordination, difficulty with thinking and problem solving and disrupted learning and memory.

After smoking marijuana, a teen's thinking abilities bounce back more slowly than an adult's. Regular use leads to a permanent decrease in learning capabilities, a shortened attention span and an impaired ability to effectively communicate. Researchers have also linked youth use of marijuana to mental illness and psychosis.

Our peer-to-peer approach to encourage young people to avoid destructive decisions is already stretched. Legal marijuana will only tempt more teens. In their inexperience, they will drive or take other foolish risks. Not looking beyond today, they will sacrifice their potential. And we all will lose.

Legalizing marijuana is a bad idea for adults. But the consequences for our youth will be worse. Please vote no and protect the future.

Jessica Smith, Glendale

This proposition is a massive, special-interest giveaway to a multi-million dollar industry.

The marijuana industry wrote this ballot measure to benefit themselves. It's 20 pages long and filled with loopholes and special treatment for companies already in the marijuana business, and it creates a new Commission and a new state Department. It's self-enrichment at its worst, and Arizonans will pay the price.

The impact in Colorado has been substantial: Colorado now leads the country in teenage marijuana use; fatal traffic accidents involving marijuana are rising; teachers and principals say the increase in students in class who are stoned has made their jobs much more difficult; and homeless shelters are struggling with increased rates of occupancy by marijuana users at lower and lower ages.

The claim that marijuana will bring dramatic new money to help pay for education has been exposed in the Arizona Republic as "bunk" and "a lie." In fact the social, health, law enforcement, and other costs will far, far outweigh any tax revenue generated by pot sales. This is a money loser for Arizona, not a winner.

The worst part is Big Marijuana's marketing to kids. Forty-five percent of pot sales in Colorado are edibles such as candy bars, lollipops, and cookies. Students suck on lollipops between classes, go into class stoned, learn nothing, and teachers are increasingly helpless. How is this supposed to be good for Arizona? Make no mistake about it –candy attractive to youth are part of their business plan to hook their next generation of customers. And unfortunately that's our children they're planning to target.

Please take time to do your own research and learn the facts about the impact broad marijuana use would have in Arizona. When you do, I believe you'll be persuaded to vote "NO."

Governor Doug Ducey, Paradise Valley
Sponsored by "Arizonans for Responsible Drug Policy"

The best government is a small government, just large enough to fulfill vital functions without infringing on freedom or picking winners and losers. This proposition goes in the opposite direction, making government larger and rewarding a favored few, creating monopolies while increasing costs to the state. It's an abuse of the initiative process.

Rather than letting the experts in the state Department of Health oversee marijuana dispensaries, this initiative creates a whole new department, led by a whole new commission required to be

staffed by marijuana industry insiders. The initiative gives current medical marijuana businesses a monopoly on retail dispensaries, blocking any competition and all in the service of selling an addictive and increasingly dangerous drug.

Bigger government. Less free enterprise. More addiction. This is anathema to every form of liberty I can conjure.

Beyond political philosophy, practical considerations also argue against approving this initiative. We need look only to Colorado and Washington to see the consequences of legalizing marijuana. Traffic fatalities involving stoned drivers spiked and emergency room visits, especially for children, skyrocketed as young children are accidentally consuming marijuana-infused candies. And, yes, businesses are having more trouble finding drug-free workers.

The proponents don't want to talk about any of this. They want to tell us about the millions of dollars in new tax revenue marijuana will provide for education. Yet what about the costs associated with an increased need for substance abuse treatment? The price of fatal traffic accidents, workplace injuries and hospitalizations? The long term impacts of lower educational outcomes, suspensions and expulsions? These consequences will far outrun any revenue—and the revenue predicted is a true pittance, pocket change, especially given the additional costs put on the state.

The price of legalizing marijuana, larger government and social expenses, is too high. Vote no.

U.S. Representative Matt Salmon, Mesa
Sponsored by "Arizonans for Responsible Drug Policy"

The Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce stands in firm opposition to the Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act. This 21-page initiative authored by special interests places the right of an employee to use marijuana ahead of the duty of their employer to provide a safe, successful and welcoming workplace for all employees.

Evidence shows that employees under the influence are a legitimate problem for employers. Workers who test positive for marijuana have been shown to have 55 percent more industrial accidents and 85 percent more injuries.

Furthermore, recreational marijuana legalization – as proposed by this initiative – greatly diminishes our state's ability to attract new businesses, foster innovation and create jobs. One has to look no further than Colorado's failed legal-marijuana experiment, where both the governor and business owners are struggling with the negatives and telling other states to wait. Additionally, if this initiative passes, employers may not be able to deny a job to someone who tests positive for marijuana and it would be difficult to take disciplinary action against an employee who fails a drug test. In sum, this initiative opens the door to a new field of broad and expensive, wrongful-termination lawsuits.

There is no scenario where legalizing recreational marijuana makes sense for Arizona's employers, businesses or economy.

To continue moving Arizona's economy forward we must remain an attractive location to businesses and a magnet for new innovation. This proposition acts in direct opposition to that goal. This proposal is bad for our business members, bad for employees and bad for the state.

We ask you to join employers in voting NO.

Daniel Froetscher
Chairman of the Board
Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce

Todd Sanders
President & CEO
Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce

Todd Sanders, Phoenix and Daniel Froetscher, Phoenix
Sponsored by "Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce"

The Arizona Public Health Association, Arizona's independent voice for public health for over 70 years, believes the Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act poses public health risks and benefits.

The public health benefits include decriminalization for possession of small amounts of marijuana. Possession of marijuana (even one marijuana cigarette) is currently a felony (excluding medical marijuana patients). Felony convictions result in a lifetime of lower earnings and poorer health outcomes for those convicted and their families. Regulating marijuana sales may also reduce violence within the current illegal marijuana trade.

Other benefits include providing an opportunity to monitor and regulate production, potency, testing and labeling of marijuana before sale. Tax revenue from the retail sale of marijuana distributed to schools (80%) and for substance abuse education (20%) may also have a positive public health impact.

Public health risks from the proposed Initiative include the potential for increased access to marijuana among adolescents, accidental marijuana ingestion among young children, increased potential for marijuana abuse among adults, and risks to the public from impaired driving and workplace accidents.

How well the Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act is implemented will affect the law's net impact on public health. If the Act passes, Arizona residents, elected officials, and Arizona's Executive Branch should ensure that the new state agency uses its full regulatory authority to strictly enforce the 21 year old purchasing age-limit, enforce robust product labeling, packaging, and potency standards, regulate advertising and place of use restrictions, engage employers to address workplace policies, and work with law enforcement regarding motor vehicle operation restrictions and penalties. The new state agency should also engage Arizona's public Universities to better understand and measure public health outcomes related to marijuana use.

For additional information including a descriptive PowerPoint and data from Colorado visit www.azpha.org

Will Humble for the Arizona Public Health Association, Phoenix
Sponsored by “Arizona Public Health Association”

Reasons to vote against the marijuana initiative:

- “Fatal crashes involving drivers who recently used marijuana doubled in Washington after the state legalized the drug, according to the latest research by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.” (newsroom.aaa.com/2016/05/fatal-road-crashes-involving-marijuana-double-state-legalized-drugs)
- The Governor of Colorado on March 8, 2016 suggested other states “think twice” before legalizing marijuana.
- “Marijuana-related calls to poison control centers in Washington and Colorado have spiked since the states began allowing legal sales last year, with an especially troubling increase in calls concerning young children.” (AP)
- “The marijuana sold today is far more powerful than the marijuana used 30 years ago. Today’s marijuana is estimated to be 244% higher in potency than marijuana seized in the 1980s.” (www.PreventTeenDrugUse.org)
- The National Institute on Drug Abuse reports that marijuana use leads to lower life satisfaction, poorer mental health, poorer physical health, and more relationship problems.
- At least 1 in 11 young adults who begin smoking will develop an addiction to marijuana. (Dr. Sushrut Jungi October 8, 2015 article)
- Research by Jodi Gilman at Harvard Medical School showed that marijuana smokers had impaired working memory even when not acutely high
- “Smoking one joint is as harmful to lungs as having up to 5 tobacco cigarettes in succession.” (www.PreventTeenDrugUse.org)
- “Marijuana smokers face faster deterioration of lungs – 20 years ahead of tobacco smokers.” (www.PreventTeenDrugUse.org)
- “Marijuana use is associated with depression, suicidal thoughts, and suicide attempts.” (www.PreventTeenDrugUse.org)

For more information on the MANY hazards of legalizing marijuana see www.PreventTeenDrugUse.org, ardp.org, or drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/marijuana.

Florence Smith, Phoenix

Despite what we’ve been told, legal pot is not a tax bonanza for Colorado. In fact, it’s a net loss for state and local governments. As Colorado’s Governor Hickenlooper told CNN, “I tell other governors that we are not making any extra revenue from pot sales...” That’s because every tax dollar Colorado brings in goes to cleaning up the problems legal weed causes; the money goes to drug treatment, or to public health programs like the ones to prevent teenage use and drugged driving. Not only is there nothing left over, but there are even more costs. Law enforcement costs

go up because police have to enforce drugged driving and underage possession, which both increase. In Colorado, fewer white kids are getting arrested for marijuana possession, but police are arresting more black and Latino teens. And there's the police work done to stop black market sales, which are a big problem in Colorado. Any time you tax a product, someone will try to evade taxes. In Colorado, the joke is that only tourists buy the highly taxed weed sold in stores. You might have noticed that news reports about all the marijuana taxes Colorado is bringing in never mention all the expenses, but in the real world there are two sides to a balance sheet. Alcohol brings in tax dollars, but state and local governments spend six times what they reap in taxes to clean up the mess alcohol causes. Marijuana would be no different. Legal weed would be a drain on state budgets.

Roy Thomas, CEO, Cornerstone Recovery Center, Prescott

The marijuana industry is trying to sell us on legalization by telling us jails and prisons are full of innocent pot-smokers, but it's not true. Here's the data: Half of all U.S. prison inmates are there for violent crimes. The rest is mostly in for property crime like burglary and drunk or drugged driving. Only 15 – 20 percent are in for drug crimes, and almost all of those in prison for trafficking. Only about one percent are in solely for possession, and there's always other circumstances; most of them pleaded down from a more serious charge or were caught with so much they were obviously selling it. And only about 5 percent of this already tiny number involve marijuana; the rest were possessing hard drugs. As the Los Angeles Times wrote last November, it's "pure bunk" that "tax money, cop time and jail space are wasted corralling and incarcerating marijuana users. Maybe that was true decades ago. But today it's a myth. No one gets busted and jailed for merely smoking a joint." You shouldn't believe anyone who tells you otherwise.

Paul Covelli, Executive Director, Bridges Network Recovery Center, Prescott

It is a myth that legalizing marijuana would get rid of drug cartels. This country has a huge black market in cigarettes because they are heavily taxed, and legal marijuana would be no different. The black market is thriving in Colorado because pot-smokers want to avoid paying marijuana taxes. However, there is a way to get rid of criminal drug cartels. There were no cartels in the 1940s because barely anyone in the U.S. used illegal drugs. We can do that again. Between 1978 and 1992, daily teenage marijuana use decrease by more than 80 percent because parent organizations pressured the news and entertainment media to stop glamorizing the drug. Sweden and Norway have the toughest marijuana laws in the western world, and their rate of teenage use is only a fifth of the rate in the U.S. and Canada, which are countries with some of the loosest marijuana laws. Strict marijuana laws and a news and entertainment media that tells us the downside of drug use rather than how wonderful it is will prevent most drug use, including most marijuana use. That, in turn, will starve the traffickers. So the best way to eliminate criminal drug cartels is to vote against this initiative and keep marijuana illegal.

Alan Brozik, Clinical Director, New Hope for Recovery, Prescott

As the Sheriff of Pima County, I strongly oppose The Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act (RTMA) on the ballot November 8, 2016. I implore all voters to vote "NO", primarily for the protection and future success of our youth.

The RTMA is fraught with pitfalls and minefields for our Arizona youth including allowing pot shops within 501 feet of schools. With our education system facing so many challenges, the RTMA will compound the obstacles for our youth's educational success in graduating high school and college.

Colorado after 4 years of legalization has experienced significant increases in marijuana-related ER visits, traffic fatalities, child exposures, school suspensions/expulsions and teens use of other illicit drugs than in any other state. THC, the active chemical in marijuana has a profound negative effect on the still developing brains of teens/young adults, including cognitive decline, poor attention/memory and decreased IQ. THC in marijuana is responsible for the psychological effects it poses including dependence, psychosis, other drug use, low educational/employment outcomes and welfare dependency.

The RTMA's legislation includes the sale of high potency "edibles" containing marijuana such as high potency candies, brownies/cookies. Poison control facilities across the country reported staggering amounts of kids and teens exposed to marijuana and could accidentally ingest them.

The impact marijuana use makes on transportation safety is alarming. The drug impairs attentiveness, motor coordination, reaction time and impacts the perception of time and speed. National studies found that marijuana negatively impacts driving performance, and the risk of crashes and traffic fatalities.

Please do not fall prey to the propaganda by the RTMA supporters who do not reside in Arizona. As Pima County Sheriff, I urge you to VOTE NO to RTMA initiative this November it is a dangerous decision for our state and for our Arizona youth.

Chris Nanos, Pima County Sheriff, Tucson

Prop. [xxx] seeks to establish a protected recreational marijuana market for current marijuana dispensary owners making it nothing more than crony capitalism at the ballot box. Under the misleading claim of wanting to "legalize" marijuana and end government restrictions, dispensary owners and out of state special interests are seeking to create a whole new Department of Marijuana with a new Marijuana Commission. With three seats guaranteed for current dispensary owners, the Marijuana Commission will be empowered to write new rules and regulations on top of the 20 pages of new laws in the initiative to protect dispensary owners' new recreational stores. To enforce all these new regulations, the Department of Marijuana is authorized to hire special agents tasked with enforcement and investigate anyone involved in any transfer of marijuana for value. Not even the Department of Liquor has that kind of authority. If creating bigger government is not enough, dispensary owners have refused to tell us how much we will pay in more people becoming addicted to new strains of super potency marijuana and the

resulting costs of children being admitted to the ER for eating marijuana laced candies. Neither of these problems are hypothetical. We only have to look to Colorado to see the impacts to infants, small children, pets, students, and those injured and killed by marijuana impaired drivers to know the costs are greater than any taxes that might be raised. Colorado has already started taking steps to restrict the types of candy made with marijuana that can be sold and to try and limit the potency of marijuana that can be sold. But thanks to dispensary owners, the Arizona initiative will not allow for those kinds of changes and we will be stuck with another bad idea. Vote no on Prop. [xxx].

Bill Montgomery, Maricopa County Attorney, Chandler

The Risks to Public Health Are Too Great – Vote NO on Marijuana Legalization

The Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association is committed to building better healthcare and health for the patients, people and communities of Arizona. Our goal is to help make Arizona the Healthiest State in the Nation. Unfortunately, the initiative to legalize marijuana for recreational use damages these critical public health efforts. Before Arizona voters cast their ballots, they should know this – states that have already legalized recreational marijuana have seen increased:

- Marijuana-related hospitalizations;
- Access to and usage of marijuana among teens;
- Accidental poisonings of children;
- Marijuana-related DUIs.

There is much more we don't yet know concerning the negative societal and public health effects when marijuana is made a commercial product. Why should Arizona be the guinea pig for this kind of risky drug experiment? The safer course of action is to wait and watch. Before long, we will know the full range of impacts in states that have legalized recreational marijuana – and Arizona voters will have the ability to make a fully-informed decision.

In the meantime, Arizona already faces significant public health challenges. Too many families are struggling with substance abuse. Expanding access to recreational marijuana will only exacerbate these issues and put more Arizona teens and families at risk.

On behalf of the 71 hospitals and healthcare facilities we represent in communities across Arizona, and out of concern for the well-being of patients and families, the Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association opposes the legalization of recreational marijuana and asks Arizonans to vote “no.”

Greg Vigdor, President/CEO, Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association

Ron McArthur, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association

Greg Vigdor, Phoenix and Ron McArthur, Show Low
Sponsored by “Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association”

Because we stand for safe and healthy communities and expanded educational outcomes for our state's children, we strongly oppose this initiative. If it passes, it will negatively affect everything from our communities' health, education, welfare, and workforce, especially harming our most vulnerable populations.

After legalization in Colorado and Washington, the number of young children ingesting marijuana skyrocketed. Marijuana edibles – candy laced with pot – looks no different than ordinary candy. Legalizing marijuana also increases adolescent regular use; Colorado has now become the number one state for youth marijuana use.

That is not the only threat to children. The Arizona initiative will change custody law and instruct judges they will not be able to consider marijuana use in child custody decisions. Again, children are sacrificed for profits and more legalized drug use.

As for adults, marijuana-related driving deaths doubled since legalization in Washington State. Legalizing marijuana makes our streets and highways far more dangerous.

The proponents of legalization claim that legalization will free police to concentrate on more serious crimes. But, perversely, black markets have thrived in Colorado and Washington.

Legalization does not correct injustice and it increases illegality at the same time.

Finally, as we all work to improve education conditions in Arizona, increased marijuana use sends us in the wrong direction. Study after study shows the adverse effects of marijuana – especially high potency marijuana – on education: lower graduation rates at the elementary, secondary, and collegiate levels; damaging changes in cognition and memory; higher propensities to drop out; and greater discipline challenges in our schools.

Legalizing marijuana does not improve the health, education, or safety conditions in Arizona. It just makes one more dangerous substance more easily available, bringing more harm to everything we care about.

We urge our brothers, sisters, and all citizens of Arizona to vote no.

Obed Escobar, member of Compañerismo Evangélico Pastoral, Phoenix
Sponsored by “Center for Arizona Policy”

Before I became a U.S. Congressman, I led the Governor's Office for Children in the State Cabinet. What I learned there informs and fuels my opposition to legalizing marijuana for recreational use, especially as this initiative is written. Make no mistake: legalizing marijuana means more sales, more use, and worse, more use by children of this dangerous drug. I've seen this throughout my career. Today's THC in marijuana is so much more powerful than decades past as it actually now alters developing brains as every credible medical and pediatric organization that has studied the drug tells us. Marijuana disrupts the ability to learn, impairs coordination, and causes difficulty with thinking and problem solving. Proponents say their initiative only legalizes marijuana for adults. Alcohol is legal only for adults, yet teens have no trouble getting it. Why would we expect legal marijuana to be different? Teen use of marijuana will skyrocket, just as it did in Colorado. Why would any sane state want more of that? Proponents want us to ignore the real facts here. I understand that they stand to make a great deal of money, but at all the expense of all us, especially our children. As an employer, I could always tell the difference between the impaired and the unimpaired. Marijuana smokers were less likely to show up or, if they did, to keep focused on their work. Today, an employer can fire or discipline such workers. If this initiative passes, the marijuana user is protected and the

employer will have a much more difficult time disciplining or firing that employee. Colorado decided to experiment with legalizing recreational marijuana. The challenges that state faces continue to grow. Why would Arizona want to become the next guinea pig? Vote no.

U.S. Representative Trent Franks, Peoria
Sponsored by “Arizonans for Responsible Drug Policy”

What Scientific & Medical Experts Say:

Marijuana use creates neurocognitive impairments and intoxication in users.

Marijuana use is expected to increase if it is legal to use.

Marijuana is addictive and has adverse effects upon the teenage brain and is a risk for both cardio-respiratory disease and testicular cancer.

Marijuana use is associated with increased incidence and worsened course of psychotic, mood, anxiety, and substance use disorders across one’s lifespan.

Marijuana use is associated with the onset of psychiatric disorders, particularly in teenagers.

Marijuana-related hospitalizations and Emergency Room visits have increased substantially in recent years, especially with toddlers consuming edibles.

Marijuana dependence is associated with greater harmful economic and social problems than alcohol dependence.

Marijuana exposure caused one in six infants and toddlers to be admitted to Colorado hospitals with coughing, wheezing and other symptoms of bronchiolitis.

Marijuana use during adolescence increases the risk of developing a psychiatric disorder in adulthood, including anxiety, depression, and schizophrenia.

Marijuana exposure during childhood to can lead to coma, decreased breathing, or seizures.

Marijuana use may cause enduring neuropsychological impairment while driving.

Marijuana changes the structure and function of the adolescent brain.

Marijuana exposure in adolescence is associated with a risk for later psychotic disorder in adulthood.

Marijuana may actually worsen Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) symptoms or nullify the benefits of treatment.

Marijuana use in adolescence approximately doubles the risk of being diagnosed with schizophrenia or reporting psychotic symptoms in adulthood.

Marijuana is not benign and there is scientific evidence, compiled over nearly 30 years, to prove it poses serious risks, particularly for developing brains.

Andrea and Dwight Kadar

Andrea Kadar, Sedona and Dwight Kadar, Sedona

We want Arizona Voters to understand exactly why so many of Arizona’s Marijuana Activists and Marijuana Consumers do NOT support Prop. [XXX]!

- Prop. [XXX] has no meaningful Marijuana Decriminalization. (Most FELONY penalties remain in place.)

- Prop. [XXX] has the potential to DESTROY Arizona’s MEDICAL Marijuana Program.

- Prop. [XXX] has the potential to DESTROY Arizona's Smoke Shops.
- Prop. [XXX] gives the Medical Marijuana Dispensaries an "Oligopoly" on the Arizona Marijuana Market
- Prop. [XXX] only includes "FAKE" Marijuana Cultivation Rights for Adults.
- Prop. [XXX] allows your EMPLOYER to FIRE YOU for using Marijuana, even if used legally at your home.
- Prop. [XXX] does next to nothing to take Marijuana out of the hands of Drug Dealers.
- Prop. [XXX] fails to adequately address DUI PROTECTIONS, PARENTAL PROTECTIONS, EMPLOYEE PROTECTIONS, RAID AND SEARCH PROTECTIONS, LOSS OF RIGHTS PROTECTIONS, POST CONVICTION RELIEF, etc.

Essentially, Prop. [XXX] fails to include ANY meaningful Marijuana Consumer protections.

Prop. [XXX] is so BAD that even the people who use Marijuana won't vote for it...

If you or someone you care about consumes Marijuana in Arizona, please "Vote NO" on Prop. [XXX]!

Jason Medar, Phoenix

Sponsored by "Marijuana Consumers Against Fake Marijuana Legalization, NO on I-08-2016"

ARIZONA'S MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM IS UNDER ATTACK!

Prop. [XXX] has the potential to DESTROY Arizona's MEDICAL Marijuana Program!

Prop. [XXX] takes the Arizona Medical Marijuana Program away from AZDHS (Arizona Department of Health Services) and gives it to the new "Department of Marijuana Licenses and Control."

That new "Department of Marijuana Licenses and Control" would be run, in part, by the existing MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY OWNERS!

Allowing the people who make the MONEY to also make the RULES is a serious CONFLICT OF INTEREST!

If the Arizona Medical Marijuana Dispensary Owners control the Arizona Medical Marijuana Program, it could result in Medical Marijuana Patient rights' being sacrificed in order to generate more profits for the Medical Marijuana Dispensary Owners.

While Arizona's Medical Marijuana Program is far from perfect, more than 90,000+ seriously ill Arizonans rely on the Medical Marijuana Program to keep them safe!

If Arizona's Medical Marijuana Program gets DESTROYED, we CANNOT undo that destruction in the future!

Please VOTE NO on Prop. [XXX] and keep Arizona's Medical Marijuana Program SAFE!!

Jason Medar, Phoenix

Sponsored by "Marijuana Consumers Against Fake Marijuana Legalization, NO on I-08-2016"

Prop. [XXX] DOES NOT INCLUDE MEANINGFUL MARIJUANA
"DECRIMINALIZATION"

Prop. [XXX] does not remove Felony penalties for the vast majority of low-level Marijuana offenses.

Prop. [XXX] does not repeal the existing Marijuana Prohibition laws in Arizona.

In most cases, if you break the law in Prop. [XXX], it reverts back to the old Marijuana penalties which includes a life-altering FELONY. In some cases, that Marijuana FELONY includes a MANDATORY PRISON SENTENCE!

Is Marijuana somehow SAFE enough to sell to adults in a retail setting, but still DANGEROUS enough to send adults to PRISON for breaking the Marijuana laws?

We live in a world where people make mistakes. Should people be punished if they break the Marijuana law? YES! Should people be given a life-altering FELONY and possibly sent to PRISON for breaking the Marijuana law? NO!

We know based on Polling from across the entire United States that the vast majority of voters support Marijuana Decriminalization.

In other words, the statistics tell us that if you thought that people should be given a FELONY and sent to PRISON for using Marijuana, you probably wouldn't support ANY Marijuana Legalization and you wouldn't be voting for Prop. [XXX] in the first place.

The reality is, Prop. [XXX] does NOT include Marijuana DECRIMINALIZATION because Marijuana FELONIES keep the retail price of Marijuana higher and drive more customers to the Retail Dispensaries, which benefits the Arizona Medical Marijuana Dispensaries who are paying for Prop. [XXX].

To Legalize Marijuana, and at the same time ask Law Enforcement to focus their limited resources on FELONY MARIJUANA cases, is completely contradictory to the whole point of Legalizing Marijuana!

Jason Medar, Phoenix

Sponsored by “Marijuana Consumers Against Fake Marijuana Legalization, NO on I-08-2016”

Prop. [XXX] ALLOWS THE ARIZONA MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES TO HAVE A MONOPOLY ON THE ENTIRE ARIZONA MARIJUANA MARKET

Prop. [XXX] says that ONLY the existing Arizona MEDICAL Marijuana Dispensary Owners are guaranteed to receive any of the new Recreational Marijuana Dispensary Licenses, Recreational Marijuana Cultivation Licenses, and Recreational Marijuana Product Manufacturing Licenses.

Prop. [XXX] seeks to give the AZ Medical Marijuana Dispensaries a "Vertical Oligopoly" on the entire Arizona Recreational Marijuana Market.

If Prop. [XXX] ONLY allows the existing Arizona MEDICAL Marijuana Dispensary Owners to sell and grow Recreational Marijuana in Arizona, but those same Dispensaries are having to buy Marijuana illegally in order to keep up with the current demand of 90,000+ Medical Marijuana Patients, then obviously it stands to reason that those very same Dispensaries won't be able to supply the demand of an estimated 500,000 Marijuana consumers in Arizona.

Prop. [XXX] giving the Arizona MEDICAL Marijuana Dispensaries the "Oligopoly" on the entire Arizona Marijuana Market will ultimately cause the Black Market to thrive!

In Prop. [XXX], any Black Market Marijuana activity is punishable by a FELONY, often times with a "Mandatory Minimum PRISON Sentence." So in the end, Prop. [XXX] would likely result in MORE people being arrested and charged with Marijuana FELONIES than ever before.

Hence why Arizona's Marijuana Activists call Prop. [XXX] the "Jail Bait Initiative" and the "Free Cheese in the mousetrap."

The Arizona Medical Marijuana Dispensaries are paying MILLIONS of dollars to get Prop. [XXX] passed in 2016 because it gives them an OLIGOPOLY on the Arizona Marijuana Market.

Please VOTE NO on Prop. [XXX] and stop the MARIJUANA MONOPOLY!

Jason Medar, Phoenix

Sponsored by “Marijuana Consumers Against Fake Marijuana Legalization, NO on I-08-2016”

Regardless of your thoughts on marijuana usage, please join the Arizona Manufacturers Council in opposing this ill-conceived proposition.

The proposition enshrines rights for recreational marijuana users beyond those any other state provides, requiring new rights for a special class of recreational marijuana users, even if these

new rights conflict with other local, state or federal laws. It contains no opt-out provision for manufacturers that have federal contracts or are subject to federal workplace drug-free laws. This creates a legal impossibility for such manufacturers to comply with federal and state laws and will incentivize manufacturers to leave Arizona.

This proposition also handcuffs manufacturers' ability to provide safe workplaces while hamstringing employers with additional expenses and unreasonable liabilities. The stakes are high in manufacturing, which often involves heavy machinery, scorching temperatures and metal cutting. A study published by the American Medical Association noted that workers who test positive for marijuana use have 55% more industrial accidents and 85% more injuries.

Moreover, this proposition forces the employer to prove liability against itself before the employer may take any adverse action against an impaired employee to protect its workforce. Employers will only be able to take adverse action against a marijuana-using employee if the employee is impaired on the job and takes an action that would "constitute negligence or professional malpractice." Impairment alone would be hard for an employer to prove given the lack of accepted standards and tests available to determine marijuana impairment. Making an employer prove that its employee was negligent before it may take any adverse action against the employee robs the employer of its ability to prevent workplace injuries and ensures its liability for damages once the injury occurs—a win-win for trial attorneys, and a lose-lose for Arizona.

Dawn Grove
Chairman
Arizona Manufacturers Council

Steve Macias
Immediate Past Chairman

Dawn Grove, Phoenix and Steve Macias, Phoenix
Sponsored by "Arizona Manufacturers Council"

"FAKE" PERSONAL MARIJUANA CULTIVATION RIGHTS

Prop. [XXX] initially "appears" to say that adults over the age of 21 can legally grow 6 Marijuana Plants at their residence.

UNFORTUNATELY, THAT'S NOT THE ENTIRE STORY.

Prop. [XXX] does say that adults over the age of 21 can legally grow 6 Marijuana Plants at their residence...

HOWEVER...

Prop. [XXX] also says that any CITY or COUNTY can choose to BAN Personal Marijuana Growing in their jurisdiction if the local City Council or County Council decides that Marijuana growing is a “Nuisance” to a “considerable number of people.”

What exactly is a “Nuisance” and what exactly is a “considerable number of people”? The answers to both of those questions will be determined by a handful of City Council-members who most likely HATE MARIJUANA.

After the Arizona Medical Marijuana Act was implemented in 2011, we quickly learned that the most Arizona City Councils HATE Marijuana and Marijuana Cultivation.

Many of the Arizona Cities and Counties have already crafted a long list of reasons why they consider Personal Marijuana growing to be a "Nuisance."

Unfortunately, City Councils would not actually be required to prove that Marijuana growing ACTUALLY causes a real “Nuisance” in order for them to BAN Marijuana Growing.

We fully expect that virtually every single City and County in Arizona will choose to exercise their authority to BAN MARIJUANA GROWING under Prop. [XXX].

We call it “FAKE MARIJUANA GROW RIGHTS.”

Jason Medar, Phoenix

Sponsored by “Marijuana Consumers Against Fake Marijuana Legalization, NO on I-08-2016”

ARIZONA SMOKE SHOPS COULD SOON BE DESTROYED!

Prop. [XXX] has the potential to DESTROY Arizona’s Smoke Shops!

Prop. [XXX] is paid for by a group of Arizona Medical Marijuana Dispensary owners who want to have a Monopoly on the “Marijuana Accessories” Market!

Prop. [XXX] creates a new “Department of Marijuana Licenses and Control.” That Marijuana Department would be run in part by the Arizona Medical Marijuana Dispensary owners.

Prop. [XXX] says that this new “Department of Marijuana Licenses and Control” must enact regulations for ANY businesses that THEY BELIEVE are selling “Marijuana Accessories.” (The “Marijuana Department” decides whether you’re selling “Marijuana Accessories” or not!)

Arizona's Smoke Shops are worried that the “Department of Marijuana Licenses and Control” will say that ONLY “Licensed Marijuana Retail Dispensaries” can legally sell “Marijuana Accessories” to adults.

If that happens and a Smoke Shop doesn't have a "Marijuana Retail Dispensary License", the Smoke Shop would be shut down by the "Marijuana Department" for selling "Marijuana Accessories" without a license. (ONLY the existing Arizona Medical Marijuana Dispensaries are guaranteed to get any of the new "Marijuana Retail Dispensary Licenses")

Prop. [XXX] says "Marijuana Accessories" are: "ANY PRODUCT THAT IS USED, INTENDED FOR USE OR DESIGNED FOR USE FOR INGESTING, INHALING OR OTHERWISE INTRODUCING MARIJUANA INTO THE HUMAN BODY." (Pipes, bongs, vaporizers, etc. will all be considered "Marijuana Accessories.")

As a business who will likely be accused of selling "Marijuana Accessories", Smoke Shops have good reason to be concerned!

Allowing Arizona's SMOKE SHOPS to be DESTROYED is bad for Businesses and Marijuana Consumers alike!

VOTE NO on Prop. [XXX] and keep Arizona's Smoke Shops safe!

Jason Medar, Phoenix

Sponsored by "Marijuana Consumers Against Fake Marijuana Legalization, NO on I-08-2016"

YOUR EMPLOYER CAN FIRE YOU FOR USING MARIJUANA LEGALLY AT YOUR OWN HOME!

Prop. [XXX] says that an adult over the age of 21 can purchase, possess, and use 1 Ounce of Marijuana legally.

However, Prop. [XXX] also says that your EMPLOYER can choose to FIRE YOU if you test positive for Marijuana, even if you used the Marijuana legally when you were NOT at work!

It would be irresponsible to allow an adult to consume Marijuana legally at their home on Saturday and then FIRE THEM from their job for testing positive for Marijuana on Monday morning. (Marijuana metabolites can remain in the bloodstream for 30 days or more!)

Most of us would probably agree that an Employee should NOT be allowed to consume Marijuana or be under the influence of Marijuana while they are AT WORK, even if Marijuana is made legal in Arizona.

Most of us would also agree that an Employee should NOT be FIRED simply for using Marijuana legally in the privacy of their own home if Marijuana is made legal in Arizona.

Making Marijuana "legal", but allowing your Employer to FIRE YOU for using it legally in your own home, is completely contradictory to the whole purpose of making Marijuana legal.

Jason Medar, Phoenix

Sponsored by "Marijuana Consumers Against Fake Marijuana Legalization, NO on I-08-2016"

Prop. [XXX] DOES NOT PUT AN END TO BLACK MARKET MARIJUANA SALES

Prop. [XXX] ONLY guarantees that the existing Medical Marijuana Dispensaries will receive any of the new Recreational Marijuana Business Licenses.

So long as "John Doe" wants to sell Marijuana in Arizona, but he's unable to get a Recreational Marijuana Dispensary License under Prop. [XXX] because he doesn't already own a Medical Marijuana Dispensary, it stands to reason that Black Market Marijuana dealers will continue to exist in Arizona.

The sponsors of Prop. [XXX] want Arizona Voters to believe that their Marijuana Regulation Initiative benefits Arizona because it will take Marijuana out of the hands of DRUG DEALERS.

However, Prop. [XXX] actually does NOTHING to take Marijuana out of the hands of DRUG DEALERS!

Under Prop. [XXX], Drug Dealers will continue to have a serious financial incentive to sell Marijuana illegally on the Black Market because the Street Value and the Retail Value of Marijuana will remain artificially high.

Marijuana currently sells for \$400+/Ounce because the Drug Dealer who is selling the Marijuana faces a FELONY penalty (with PRISON TIME) for selling it. That high amount of RISK equates to a high profit margin for the Drug Dealer.

Since Prop. [XXX] keeps FELONY Penalties in place for anyone who is accused of selling Marijuana illegally, the street value and the retail value of Marijuana will remain artificially high. This creates a serious financial incentive for DRUG DEALERS to continue selling Marijuana illegally in Arizona.

Sadly, Prop. [XXX] does NOT eliminate Black Market Marijuana Sales or take Marijuana out of the hands of Drug Dealers.

Jason Medar, Phoenix

Sponsored by "Marijuana Consumers Against Fake Marijuana Legalization, NO on I-08-2016"

Pull back the curtain a bit before assuming legalizing marijuana is just embracing Woodstock. First, it's nowhere near the drug they smoked at Woodstock. Today's joints can be 12 times more potent. Most of the marijuana consumed in Colorado is in the form of candy. The pot-laced

gummy bears and lollipops are at least three times more potent than what is smoked today, or 30 times more potent than the joints of the 60s.

Children are being rushed to the ER after accidentally ingesting potent marijuana candy. In Colorado, kids ages 12-17 use this new drug at a rate 74% higher than the national average. If not marketed to kids, why put it in candy?

Colorado legislators scrambled to right this wrong by recently banning marijuana-laced gummy bears. We wouldn't have that luxury in Arizona because the law would be voter-protected, unable to be modified by the legislature. Twenty pages of legal jargon protecting Big Marijuana would be permanent law.

This measure actually creates a legal right to use marijuana. Creating a legal right to use high-potency pot ties the hands of business owners and landlords, as well as the police. They can't punish impaired drivers who have a "right" to use a drug.

The measure also creates a marijuana monopoly. The main sponsors and financial backers of this measure are marijuana dispensaries here in Arizona that are initially guaranteed exclusive rights to profit off this initiative.

Any "regulations" are laughable. The regulating commission is largely made up of those in the industry, so the industry will be "regulating" itself!

Don't fall for this dangerous law that creates a marijuana monopoly at the expense of society and our children.

Say No to Proposition [XXX]. For more information, visit azvoterguide.com.

Cathi Herrod, Esq., President, Center for Arizona Policy, Phoenix and Josh Kredit, Esq., General Counsel & VP Policy, Center for Arizona Policy, Phoenix
Sponsored by "Center for Arizona Policy"

ARIZONA SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (ASBA)
STRONGLY OPPOSES
LEGALIZATION OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA

On behalf of the small business community in Arizona, ASBA strongly urges a NO vote on November ballot initiative calling for legalization of recreational marijuana. Small businesses are the life blood of Arizona business, and every day the nearly 500,000 Arizona small businesses struggle to provide goods/services, pay employees, provide benefits, and make a profit. We don't need any additional rules and regulations foisted upon us making it more difficult.

This measure would dramatically increase small business worker's compensation and liability insurance costs. Legal costs defending employment claims would disproportionately impact and harm small businesses that don't have the financial resources others have to fight/litigate them, which could possibly lead to small businesses closing.

The Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act proposes to send additional funds to education---the wrong message for children---but before education is funded, the proponents forgot to tell us that the act creates a brand new bureaucracy, which we don't need! Totally misleading and a complete lack of transparency.

Don't be fooled by the campaign slogan, "Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol". There are unwarranted and unfair job protections for employees who use marijuana compared to those using alcohol, and marijuana businesses get unfair tax breaks at the expense of other small businesses. But don't take our word for it—read it! The lie is it's not regulated like alcohol.

If passed this poorly written initiative is subject to Arizona's Prop 108, so the Legislature can't change it unless it make it better---whatever that means.

ASBA's thorough review finds nothing positive in this proposal! It truly hurts small business!
Please VOTE NO!

Nick Petra, Board Chair

Jack W. Lunsford, Interim President/CEO

**Jack W Lunsford, Interim President/CEO, Phoenix and Nick Petra, Board Chair, Phoenix
*Sponsored by "Arizona Small Business Association"***